



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

May 2, 2003

FORMER EXECUTIVES OF GTE DATA SERVICES, INC.
FOUND GUILTY OF FRAUD

A jury in the U.S. District Court in Tampa, Thursday found Janice L. Conley guilty of one count of conspiracy, two counts of wire fraud and two counts of making false claims to the government in United States v. Janice Conley and Steven Cardo, Case No. 8:01-cr-440-T-27MSS. Defendant Steven A. Cardo was found guilty of conspiracy and one count of wire fraud. Conley faces a maximum prison sentence of twenty-five years and Cardo faces a maximum prison sentence of ten years. Both defendants will be sentenced on August 4, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. by the Honorable U.S. District Court Judge James D. Whittemore.

Conley was indicted on December 6, 2003, and the charges against Cardo were added to the indictment on February 28, 2003. According to evidence presented at trial, during 1995 and 1996 Conley was the Director, and Cardo was a senior manager, of GTE Data Services Inc. (GTEDS), a subsidiary of GTE, now known as Verizon. According to witnesses who testified during the trial, they were directed by Conley and Cardo to falsify GTEDS' time records and were also instructed to submit false and fraudulent invoices for services provided to the government Medicare program.

This case was investigated by Special Agent Kyle Ford of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and Special Agent Ellen Wilcox of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Judy K. Hunt.